

REMARKS

In reply to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect the invention of Group II, claims 1-10, 13-21, 23, 27, 28, 29-31, and 32. The election is made without traverse.

Applicants have amended the claims of the present application to conform with this election and to include additional new claims. In order to facilitate examination, Applicants have cancelled or withdrawn all pending claims and have provided all of the claims corresponding to the claims of Group II (claims 1-10, 13-21, 23, 27, 28, 29-31, and 32), as new claims. For the Examiner's convenience, a Table of Concordance is provided in the accompanying Appendix A.

New claims 42 and 43 are based on previous claims 1 and 10 and include additional limitations reciting PIGF concentrations of less than 150 pg/ml serum at 13-16 weeks of pregnancy or less than 400 pg/ml at mid-gestation as diagnostic indicators of pre-eclampsia or eclampsia. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification and the claims, for example, at page 43, lines 4-10, page 44, lines 15-16, page 53, lines 8-9, and in Figures 6A-6C and 7A-7B. New claim 44 is based on previous claims 1 and 10 and includes additional limitations reciting VEGF concentrations of less than 5 pg/ml serum as a diagnostic indicator of pre-eclampsia or eclampsia. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification and the claims, for example, at page 43, lines 4-10 and page 45, lines 5-8. New claim 49 depends from claim 46, which corresponds to original claim 2 and recites sFlt-1/PIGF as the metric. Support for claim

49 can be found throughout the specification and the claims, for example, at page 16, line 27 to page 17, line 6; page 45, lines 12- 29; and Figure 7. Claim 53 depends from claim 52 and recites the limitation that an increase in the PAAI or sFlt-1/PIGF metric is diagnostic of pre-eclampsia or eclampsia. Support for claim 53 can be found throughout the specification and the claims, for example, at page 16, line 27 to page 17, line 6; page 29, line 26 to page 30, line 2; page 45, lines 12- 29; and Figures 1C and 7. Claim 54 depends from claim 52 and recites the limitation that the metric can also include the body mass index or gestational age of the subject. Support for this claim can be found, for example, at page 26, lines 8-11 and 21-26; page 27, lines 11-12; and page 44, lines 18-20. Support for new claim 55, which specifies that the reference is a prior sample or level from the subject, can be found throughout the specification and the claims, for example, at page 7, lines 24-29. Support for new claim 56, which specifies that the reference is a sample taken from a control subject not having pre-eclampsia or eclampsia, can be found throughout the specification and the claims, for example, at page 53, line 27 to page 54, line 2. Claims 58-61 depend from claims 41, 44, 45, and 49 and each claim recites a specific trimester or weeks of pregnancy. Support for claims 58-61 can be found for example, in original claim 23, and at page 44, lines 15-16, page 47, lines 5-10, and page 52, lines 3-10. Claims 68-69 are directed to a method of diagnosing a subject as having or having a propensity to develop HELLP, IUGR, or SGA that includes measuring the level of sFlt-1, free VEGF, or free PIGF polypeptide in a sample from the subject.

Support for these claims can be found throughout the specification and the claims, for example, at page 16, lines 18-26; page 18, lines 22-25; page 26 line 27 to page 27, line 10; page 47, lines 26-28; and page 48, lines 14-18. No new matter has been added by the present amendment.

Applicants note that an Information Disclosure Statement and a Form PTO-1449 were filed in this case on February 7, 2005, April 25, 2005, and December 21, 2005. Applicants have not yet received initialed copies of the Forms PTO-1449 and hereby request initialed copies of the Forms PTO-1449 be returned with the next Office action.

Enclosed is a check for \$500 in payment of excess claims fees for five additional independent claims. Also enclosed are a Petition to extend the period for replying to the Restriction Requirement for one month, to and including April 22, 2006, and a check in payment of the required extension fee.

If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,



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Appendix A

Table of Concordance

Original Claims	New Claims
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